

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (Original)

A bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber comprising:

a bottom piece;

a flow passage formed in the bottom piece;

a check valve opening and closing the flow passage;

a spring urging the check valve;

the check valve and the spring being fixed to one face side of the bottom piece by a fixing member,

wherein the check valve and the spring are subassembled in the fixing member.

2. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 1, wherein a projection is provided in an outer periphery of the fixing member, and a centering projection in an inner periphery of the check valve is arranged and constructed to overcome the projection of the fixing member by elastic deformation, wherein the centering projection of the check valve is supported by the projection of the fixing member.

3. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 1, wherein the fixing member is constituted by a bolt and a nut screwed with the bolt, the projection is provided in a lower end portion brought into contact with the bottom piece along an outer periphery of the nut, and the check valve and the spring are previously subassembled in the nut.

4. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 2, wherein the fixing member is constituted by a bolt and a nut screwed with the bolt, the projection is provided in a lower end portion brought into contact with the bottom piece along an outer periphery of the nut, and the check valve and the spring are previously subassembled in the nut.

5. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 1, wherein the spring comprises a coil spring.

6. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 2, wherein the spring comprises a coil spring.

7. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 3, wherein the spring comprises a coil spring.

8. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 4, wherein the spring comprises a coil spring.

9. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 3, wherein the projection of the nut comprises a flange-like entire peripheral projection extending over an entire periphery of the outer periphery of the nut.

10. (Original)

The bottom valve apparatus of a hydraulic shock absorber according to claim 4, wherein the projection of the nut comprises a flange-like entire peripheral projection extending over an entire periphery of the outer periphery of the nut.

11-18. (Withdrawn)